

# Sustained employment in the meat processing industry: The FLESH study.

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We hypothesize that implementation of a workers's health surveillance and consecutive interventions will lead to prevention of injury and disability, health improvement, and eventually sustained employment.

<b>Ethische beoordeling</b>	Positief advies
<b>Status</b>	Werving gestart
<b>Type aandoening</b>	-
<b>Onderzoekstype</b>	Interventie onderzoek

## Samenvatting

### ID

NL-OMON27104

### Bron

Nationaal Trial Register

### Verkorte titel

FLESH (Functional Labour Evaluation for Sustained Health and employment)

### Aandoening

occupational health  
meat-packing industry  
work capacity evaluation  
work load  
job satisfaction

arbeid en gezondheid  
vleesverwerkende industrie  
arbeidscapaciteit evaluatie  
werkdruk  
arbeidssatisfactie

### Ondersteuning

**Primaire sponsor:** VION Food Group B.V.

**Overige ondersteuning:** ZonMw

# Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

## Uitkomstmaten

### Primaire uitkomstmaten

1. Work ability (WAI);<br>
2. Productivity (QQ questionnaire, company data);<br>
3. Absenteeism (data from Occupational Health Service).

## Toelichting onderzoek

### Achtergrond van het onderzoek

A large meat processing company has the ambition to improve their employees' sustained employability. They want to achieve this goal by implementing a job-specific workers' health surveillance (WHS) companywide. A pilot implementation has started in 2011. Starting in 2012 this surveillance will be implemented at all company locations in The Netherlands ( $\pm$  2300 employees). Based on the WHS and a risk inventory, plans will be made by employee, employer and occupational physician for interventions, aimed at preservation or recovery of sustained employment. The WHS and interventions together are called WHS-SE (Workers'Health Surveillance - Sustained Employment). This study is designed to assess the effectiveness of WHS-SE. The study uses a cluster randomized stepped wedge trial design. The study incorporates a phased intervention period of 2 years, where locations where WHS-SE has not been implemented yet, will serve as control. The WHS-SE will be evaluated with 1 year follow-up.

### Doel van het onderzoek

We hypothesize that implementation of a workers's health surveillance and consecutive interventions will lead to prevention of injury and disability, health improvement, and eventually sustained employment.

### Onderzoeksopzet

Feb/mar 2012: WHS location 1, locations 2-5 serve as control.

Jun 2012: WHS location 2, locations 1, 3-5 serve as control.

Nov 2012: WHS location 3, locations 1, 2, 4, 5 serve as control.

Apr 2013: WHS location 4, locations 1-3, 5 serve as control.

Aug/sept 2013: WHS location 5, locations 1-4 serve as control.

Jan 2014: Control at all locations.

Jul 2014: Control at all locations.

## **Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie**

At each location of the meat processing company a workers' health surveillance (WHS) and consecutive interventions will be implemented.

The WHS consists of a questionnaire on physical and psychological aspects related to work and daily life, several biometric assessments, a functional capacity evaluation (FCE), and a counselling session on the results of the beforementioned assessments. If results indicate that measures must be taken, employees are directed to e.g. a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist, or a physician.

This is considered care as usual (CAU). To evaluate CAU, a questionnaire study will be conducted by the research team. The questionnaire is administered at each timepoint described below. This questionnaire contains all primary and secondary outcomes.

In addition to evaluating the effectiveness of the WHS, a cost effectiveness study will be conducted from the employer's perspective.

This study is set-up with a stepped wedge design. The WHS will be implemented one location at a time (in total five locations are included in this study). In this design locations serve as their own control, but they also serve as control for the other locations.

## **Contactpersonen**

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## Deelname eisen

### Belangrijkste voorwaarden om deel te mogen nemen (Inclusiecriteria)

Five representative locations of a large meat processing company are included in this study. The intention is to include all contracted employees at these locations (staff and production personnel).

### Belangrijkste redenen om niet deel te kunnen nemen (Exclusiecriteria)

Employees installed by job agencies, not contracted by the meat processing company.

## Onderzoeksopzet

### Opzet

Type:	Interventie onderzoek
Onderzoeksmodel:	Cross-over
Toewijzing:	Gerandomiseerd
Blinding:	Open / niet geblindeerd
Controle:	Geneesmiddel

### Deelname

Nederland	
Status:	Werving gestart
(Verwachte) startdatum:	01-12-2011
Aantal proefpersonen:	230
Type:	Verwachte startdatum

## Ethische beoordeling

Positief advies

Datum: 21-05-2012

Soort: Eerste indiening

## Registraties

### Opgevolgd door onderstaande (mogelijk meer actuele) registratie

Geen registraties gevonden.

### Andere (mogelijk minder actuele) registraties in dit register

Geen registraties gevonden.

### In overige registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL3298
NTR-old	NTR3445
Ander register	ZonMw : 50-51400-98-020
ISRCTN	ISRCTN wordt niet meer aangevraagd.

## Resultaten

### Samenvatting resultaten

N/A